

In the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A method for the treatment of glaucoma which comprises administering to a subject in need of such treatment at least one compound which blocks stretch-activated channels of eye retinal ganglion cells or other pressure sensitive retinal ganglion cellular mechanisms so as to retinal ganglion cells from apoptotic cell death.

4-9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one compound is administered by way of eye drop or systemically.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~Gandolinium~~ Gadolinium (Gd^{3+}), agonists of Gd^{3+} on neural cells, pyrazine-carboxamides, aminoglycoside antibiotics, netilmycin, sodium channel blockers, calcium channel blockers, potassium channel blockers, calcium ions, protons, aluminum ions, tubocurarine, halothane and other inhalational anaesthetics, quinine, integrin-blocking peptides and antibodies, cisplatin, tarantula spider venom, and colchicin.

12. (previously presented) A composition for the treatment of glaucoma which comprises at least one compound which blocks stretch activated channels of eye retinal ganglion cells or other pressure sensitive mechanisms of retinal ganglion cells, said at least one compound being in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or excipients.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said at least one compound is administered by way of eye drop or systemically.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of ~~Gandolinium~~ Gadolinium (Gd^{3+}), agonists of Gd^{3+} on neural cells, pyrazine-carboxamides, aminoglycoside antibiotics, netilmycin, sodium channel blockers, calcium channel blockers, potassium channel blockers, calcium ions, protons, aluminum ions, tubocurarine, halothane and other inhalational anaesthetics, quinine, integrin-blocking peptides and antibodies, cisplatin, tarantula spider venom, and colchicin.